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* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, the hon. Members who spoke, especially the hon. Member who spoke first, misunderstood the restricted scope of the Bill. He wanted that this rent reduction should be applied to estates and inams to which it is not now applicable. That can be done only by an amendment to the Estates Abolition Act, that is, to amend the word ' estate ' in the Act. The scope of this Bill is only very limited. We are trying to amend section 5 of the Rent Reduction Act. The object is this : Now under the Rent Reduction Act, the original rent that was due to the institutions are not forthcoming because the rent has been reduced under the Act. The Government, therefore, thought it necessary to make good that difference so that the working of the institutions may not suffer. But Government never contemplated that the reduction of the income due to any other reason should also be provided for or made good by the Government. So far as the difference is concerned, where it arises on account of rent reduction, Government have been paying the difference and they are continuing to pay. But if any reduction in income arises on account of reduced cultivation of the land, or because where the lands are taxed water rate and water is not taken, therefore, water rate is not levied and, the income is lessened, then the Government is not expected to come forward and make good the loss. If that were the case, the Government will have to pay out of the general Exchequer. That is quite wrong. That is why the Government have brought this amendment. So far as the difference arises on account of rent reduction, it will be made good. But if the difference arises by any other extraneous reasons, it should not be made good. The scope of the amending Bill is only that. It is provided that if the excess amounts are paid by mistake, it should be deducted from the tasdic allowance that has to be paid to the institution.

" Sir, it was said that the institutions will suffer. Yes, to some extent. But they will have to make their coat according to the cloth. Even Government have recourse to retrenchment. In families and households also, they have to retrench. The institutions also can very well retrench."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

' That the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Amendment Bill, 1954, be taken into consideration at once.' "

The motion was put and carried.

Point of information re *irregular practices in election.*

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" Sir, on a point of information. The Hon. Leader of the House said that he was prepared for an enquiry in reply to the criticisms which I made. May I know the method by which he proposes to hold the enquiry? Is he going to start the enquiry or is he just making it open to us to go to the Election Tribunal? "

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I am not here to give such information to the Deputy Leader of the Opposition. There are provisions in law for the purpose of seeking remedies if there are irregularities . . ."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" Sir, what I wanted was information with regard to his statement that he is prepared to hold an enquiry."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, I said that because there had been no irregularities; and so I said ' I am not frightened by the challenge ', adding that there should be a public enquiry. It is only in that sense I said that ' I am not afraid of a public enquiry '. But if there had been any irregularities, there are methods by which a remedy could be sought. I am not prepared to give advice on that."

IV.—GOVERNMENT MOTIONS—*cont.*

(3) ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE STATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have to announce to the House that Sri M. R. Ramachandran, M.L.A., is the only candidate validly nominated for election to the State Library Committee. I hereby declare him duly elected."

Half-hour debate on Malampuzha Scheme.

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, . . ."

(The Leader of the House, the Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam said that there was a Party meeting to-day and therefore the debate might be postponed.)

MR. SPEAKER :—" Just as the Government are accommodating the members, the hon. Member may adjust to suit the convenience of the hon. Minister. We shall take this up tomorrow after 1 p.m.

" The House is adjourned to tomorrow till 9 a.m."

The House then adjourned.